

signal when a first predetermined period of time elapses without the release sensor providing the indication; and

a second communication device configured to receive the wireless transmissions from the first communication device and to generate a warning signal when the activation signal is identified, the second communication device further configured to send an interrogation signal to the first communication device when the period of time elapses without receiving the wireless transmission having the status signal.

55. The system of claim 54, wherein the first communication device is configured to generate a wireless transmission having a responsive signal in response to the interrogation signal from the second communication device.

56. The system of claim 55, wherein the second communication device generates a warning signal when a second predetermined period of time elapses from the sending of the interrogation signal without receiving the wireless transmission having the responsive signal.

57. The system of claim 54, further comprising an annunciator in communication with the second communication device and configured to provide an alert when the second communication device generates the warning signal.

58. The system of claim 57, wherein the annunciator includes one of a display monitor, a pager, and a light emitting diode.

59. The system of claim 54, wherein the release sensor includes a wire configured to be broken when the pressure relief device activates.

60. The system of claim 54, wherein the first communication device includes a battery and the status signal includes a representation of the battery voltage.

61. The system of claim 54, wherein the release sensor includes a battery and the status signal includes a representation of the battery voltage.

62. A monitoring system for a pressurized system, comprising:

a pressure relief device;

a release sensor configured to provide an indication when the pressure relief device activates;

a first communication device connected to the release sensor and configured to send a wireless transmission having an activation signal when the indication is provided by the release sensor and configured to send a wireless transmission having a status signal when a first predetermined period of time elapses without the release sensor providing the indication; and

a second communication device configured to receive the wireless transmissions from the first communication device and to generate a warning signal when the activation signal is identified, the second communication device further configured to

send an interrogation signal to the first communication device when the period of time elapses without receiving the wireless transmission having the status signal.

63. The system of claim 62, wherein the first communication device is configured to generate a wireless transmission having a responsive signal in response to the interrogation signal from the second communication device.

64. The system of claim 63, wherein the second communication device generates a warning signal when a second predetermined period of time elapses from the sending of the interrogation signal without receiving the wireless transmission having the responsive signal.

65. The system of claim 62, further comprising an annunciator in communication with the second communication device and configured to provide an alert when the second communication device generates the warning signal.

66. The system of claim 65, wherein the annunciator includes one of a display monitor, a pager, and a light emitting diode.

67. The system of claim 62, wherein the release sensor includes a wire configured to be broken when the pressure relief device activates.

68. The system of claim 62, wherein the first communication device includes a battery and the status signal includes a representation of the battery voltage.

69. The system of claim 62, wherein the release sensor includes a battery and the status signal includes a representation of the battery voltage.

70. A method of monitoring a pressure relief device, comprising the steps of:
providing an indication when a pressure relief device activates;
sending a wireless transmission with a first communication device when the indication is provided, the wireless transmission including an activation signal;
sending a wireless transmission having a status signal when a first predetermined period of time elapses without receiving the indication;
receiving the wireless transmission with a second communication device;
generating a warning signal when the activation signal is identified; and
sending an interrogation signal to the first communication device when the first predetermined period of time elapses without receiving a wireless transmission having the status signal.

71. The method of claim 70, further including returning a wireless transmission having a responsive signal from the first communication device in response to the interrogation signal.

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com